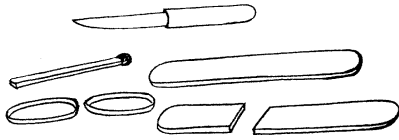
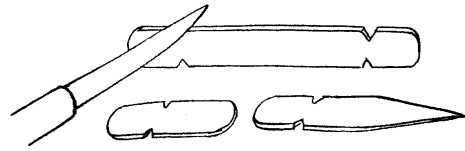


FLICK KNIFE

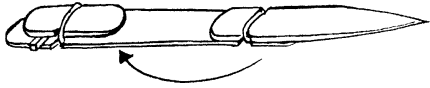
This automatic mechanical knife - a *Rampuri Chaku*, is fun to make and a sheer delight to play with.



1. To make the Flick Knife you will need two wooden ice-cream sticks, two small rubber bands, a matchstick and a paper knife or blade. Cut one ice-cream stick about 3-cm from one end.



2. Cut notches in the pieces as shown. Taper the long piece so that it looks like a knife blade. Cut notches on the other ice-cream stick too, as shown.

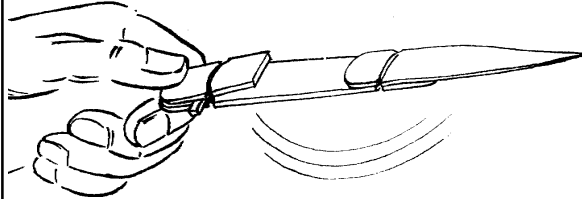


3. Join the cut pieces on the big ice-cream stick by putting a rubber band in each pair of notches. Slip in a piece of matchstick between the small piece and the big ice-cream stick. This is the fulcrum and is part of the locking system. You can open and close it by pressing it.

(Pix: Avinash Deshpande)



4. Now swing the blade and lock it under the small piece.



5. Now, if you press the left button, the blade will flick open in a fraction of a second.